

Welcome to Watsonville First United Methodist Church

Open Mind, Open Heart, Open Door

We are a publicly declared **Reconciling Congregation** and a member of the Reconciling Ministries Network that advocates and works for a truly all-inclusive church. As a Christian community, we lean in on radical inclusion welcoming to humans of all races, genders, and sexual orientations who are affirmed and accepted as a full participant in the life and work of this United Methodist congregation.

Third Sunday of Lent

Sunday, March 12, 2023, 10 am

Today's altar flowers are dedicated by Marieta Flores.

We welcome all visitors today! Thank you for being here and gracing us with your presence. Please fill out the "**Visitation Card**" found in the pew and either place it in the offering plate or deposit into the *Suggestion Box* back in the narthex.

Prayer Candles are located back at the narthex for anyone who wants to light a candle for someone or something and offer it to God in prayer.

Children are invited to enjoy the resources in the **Children Learning Center** located at the back of the sanctuary during worship. Children are welcome to check out books and activity items to take home by signing the simple "*Check-out Sheet*" on clipboard there.

Today's altar flowers are dedicated by Marieta Flores.

Words of Meditation

"There's a deeper way of knowing what it means to know, which is beyond all explanations. It's just in this deep kind of wisdom that's manifested in ways beyond what the thinking self thinks it can understand."

~ James Finley

*(*Please stand if you are able)*

Prelude

Gethsemane Hymn

Marina Thomas

Bringing in the Light

Welcome & the Life of the Church

Rev. John Song

***Passing of Peace** (Wave to your neighbors near you with "**Peace of Christ be with you.**")

***Centering Breath**

The practice of Chanting the **Names of Jesus Christ** is invoking the **indwelling Presence of Christ** within you and within all of us.

Jesus Christ

You are my Lord

You abide in me (v. 2) I abide in you

***Call to Worship (Responsive)**

Leader: As a shepherd seeks a lost sheep,

People: So God seeks and saves the lost.

Leader: Like a woman who searches for a lost coin until it is found,

People: So God rejoices over one soul restored to wholeness.

Leader: As a father receives a returning wayward son,

People: So God welcomes us, and lets the past be the past.

Leader: Therefore let us praise God in thanksgiving that we are received.

People: Let us receive and welcome and rejoice over one another in the name of Jesus Christ.

***Gathering Song**

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

#140

Children's Time

"How to Do the Sign of the Cross"

Pastor John

Epistle Reading

1 Corinthians 13:12-13 (The Message)

¹² "We don't yet see things clearly. We're squinting in a fog, peering through a mist. But it won't be long before the weather clears and the sun shines bright! We'll see it all then, see it all as clearly as God sees us, knowing him directly just as he knows us!

¹³ But for right now, until that completeness, we have three things to do to lead us toward that consummation: Trust steadily in God, hope unswervingly, love extravagantly. And the best of the three is love."

Philippians 4:6

"And the peace that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus."

Leader: The word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God!

Message

Rendezvous with God

Rev. John Song

Part 3) **"Sign of the Cross 3.0"**

Unison Prayer

Prayer of John Wesley

I am no longer my own, but yours.

Put me to what you will, place me with whom you will.

Put me to doing, put me to suffering.

Let me be put to work for you or set aside for you,

Praised for you or criticized for you.

Let me be full, let me be empty.

Let me have all things, let me have nothing.

I freely and fully surrender all things to your glory and service.

And now, O wonderful and holy God,

Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer,

you are mine, and I am yours.

So be it.
And the covenant which I have made on earth,
Let it also be made in heaven. Amen.

Hymn in Response

Seek Ye First

#405 (2X)

Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

Leader: Let us respond to this word of grace and hope by the giving of our tithes and offerings, which support the varied ministries of the Watsonville First United Methodist Church, mission at home and throughout the world.

Offertory

Rock of Ages

Marina Thomas

***Hymn to the Trinity**

Gloria Patri (Glory to the Father)

#70

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.

Presentation of Offering

***Unison Prayer of Dedication**

Accept our gifts from our hearts, O God, and dedicating our lives in tipping the world toward love and justice by following the Way of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Amen.

***Recessional Song**

Bind Us Together

FWS #2226

***Benediction** [*This ends the Live Streaming]

Prayers of the People

- a. Sharing of Joys & Concerns (Please raise your hand & mic will be given to you)
- b. Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer/Padre Nuestro (You are invited to pray in the language of your choice)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Postlude

O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus

Marina Thomas

*We warmly invite everyone to a delicious cup of quality coffee,
refreshments and fellowship in the Social Hall following worship.*

Today's refreshments: Marjorie Martinez & Marieta Flores

Worship Leaders

Pastor
Pianist
Choir Leader
Liturgists
Greeters

Rev. John Song
Marina Thomas
Carmelita Abenoja
Tahja Martinez, Febe Avitua, Mark Sorensen
Harry & Clarice Wiggins

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| Head Usher | Marieta Flores |
| Tech Team | Antonio Pantaleón, Lucila Pantaleón, Elizabeth Reitano |
| Nursery Attendants | Tatyana Martinez, Julissa Solis |
| Coffee Hour | Marjorie Martinez, Marieta Flores |

Calendar for the Week

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|----------------|-------------|---|
| Sun., March 12 | 10:00 am | Third Sunday of Lent Service *Spring Forward: Daylight Saving Time begins! |
| | 11:10 am | Coffee Hour, Social Hall |
| | 11:45 am | Leadership Council Meeting , St. Stephen's room |
| Mon., March 13 | 1pm-3pm | Sewing Group , St. Stephen's room |
| Sat., March 18 | 10am-3:30pm | Lenten Day Retreat , Social Hall (Pre-registration 9:30 am) |
| Sun., March 19 | 10:00 am | Fourth Lent / UMCOR & LEGO Sunday Guest Preacher, Dr. Peter Coster |
| | 11:10 am | Coffee Hour, Social Hall |
| | 11:30 am | 30 Minute Conversation with Pastor , St. Stephen's room |

Opportunities

Lenten Day Retreat with Dr. Peter Coster

What to do with ANGER: Understanding Our Sacred Emotion

Sat. March 18, 10 am – 3:30 pm

(9:30 am Pre-registration; 12 pm – 1 pm Lunch provided)

Cost for members & friends of the church: \$10 Students, Staff & anyone under 30: FREE

30 Minute Conversation with Pastor on All Things Faith & Christian Life
(Every Sunday from 11:30 am – 12 pm, during Coffee Hour, St. Stephen's room)

The **Sewing Group** meets **every Monday from 1-3 pm** in St. Stephen's Room.
All are welcome! For more information please contact Carol Parker.

Lenten Day Retreat: Sat. March 18, 10 am – 3:30 pm with Dr. Peter Coster
(9:30 am Check-in; 12 pm – 1 pm Lunch provided)

Winter Dinner Program @ Salvation Army: Fri. March 24, 4:30 pm

COPA Housing Civic Academy: Saturday, March 25, 3:00 pm @ Wats1st UMC

Church Website: watsonville1stumc.org

Email: office@watsonville1stumc.org | Phone: (831) 724-4434

Office Hours: Tue-Thu 9 am – 5 pm, Fri 9 am – 12 pm (Closed for lunch 12-1 pm)

Pastor Office Hours: Tue – Thu 10 am – 12 pm, 3 pm – 5 pm

229 Stanford Street, Watsonville, CA 95076

Baptism, Membership, Wedding, Funeral, and Pastoral Counseling are available